



CELTIC VS FC COPENHAGEN

UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE



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SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

Introduction

Celtic Football Club is legendary and as with most legends as much myth as fact surrounds its history and what the Club stands for today. The Social Mission Statement aims to simply define what the Club stands for and seeks to promote within society.

History

Celtic Football Club was founded in 1888. Its principal founder was a Marist Brother named Walfrid. The Club had two principal aims: The first aim was to raise funds to provide food for the poor of the East End of Glasgow, an area of the City that was greatly impoverished and had a high rate of infant mortality. Within the East End was a large Irish community and friction was growing between the native Glaswegians and the new influx of Irish. Brother Walfrid saw the need for social integration and his vision was a football club that Scottish and Irish, Protestants and Catholics alike could support. A new football club would be a vehicle to bring the communities together and this was the second aim. The Marist brother sought for the Club to have both a Scottish and Irish identity and hence, the Club's name "Celtic" came about, representing a bridge of cultures across the Irish Sea.

Current Positioning of Celtic Football Club

Celtic Football Club is a Scottish football club with proud Irish links. The primary business of Celtic is as a football club. It is run on a professional business basis with no political agenda. However, the Club has a wider role and the responsibility of being a major Scottish social institution promoting health, well-being and social integration.

Who is Celtic Football Club for?

Celtic Football Club is for people who want to support a football club that strives for excellence in Scotland and in Europe, is proud of its history, supportive of its local community and seeks to support the following aims: "To maximise all opportunities to disassociate the Club from sectarianism and bigotry of any kind. To promote Celtic as a Club for all people, regardless of gender, age, religion, race or ability."

Summary

Celtic is a club for everyone who believes in football as a medium for healthy pleasure, entertainment and social integration. The Club always has been and always will simply aim to be the team of the people.

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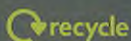
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'European nights here at Celtic Park are renowned in football, and we want to make tonight another special occasion'



GOOD evening and welcome to Celtic Park for tonight's UEFA Europa League match against FC Copenhagen. I would also like to extend that welcome to our visitors from Denmark. We received a great welcome in Copenhagen last week – players, management and supporters – and we hope that they are similarly welcomed here.

It was, as expected, a tough game against a very good opponent, and we know that will be the case again tonight, particularly with the tie finely balanced after the 1-1 draw last Thursday night.

We were pleased to score an away goal, which is always the aim in these situations although, given how well we played, particularly in the first half, we could well have scored a few more goals.

However, FC Copenhagen also

showed the attacking threat they possess, scoring a goal and having the chance of a second goal when they were awarded a penalty. But Fraser Forster once again proved his worth with a great spot-kick save.

It was, of course, our first competitive game with the VAR system in operation, and that will be the case again tonight here at Celtic Park.

And even though it has often provided talking points in games elsewhere, it's not something we're thinking about or focused on.

Our preparations since Sunday's good win over Kilmarnock has been solely on how we play against FC Copenhagen with a view to progressing to the last 16 of the competition, and I know that has also been the case with Stale Solbakken and his staff ahead of this match.

European nights here at Celtic Park

are renowned in football, and we want to make tonight's match another special occasion. I thought the crowd was tremendous on Sunday, and you could hear the way they roared on the team after we went a goal down.

Our fans definitely played their part in that win, and they can play their part again tonight as we look to get a positive result that will take us into the last 16 of the competition.

Enjoy the game.

Neil Lennon

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'We all want to be in that UEFA Europa League last 16 draw tomorrow'

WELCOME to another game under the lights here at Celtic Park and we hope we can maintain our successful start to 2020 by delivering another positive result tonight on home turf.

The games have been pretty much incessant since we returned to post-break action on January 18 with midweek games amid normal weekend games par for the course since then, but I think we can all be pleased with how the results have gone in the 11 matches so far this year.

They have all been wins apart from our 1-1 draw away in Europe against tonight's opponents, FC Copenhagen, but we hope that result, and the vital away goal that helped bring it, will stand us in good stead tonight as we know that a clean sheet will take us

through to the next round no matter what.

That said, we will be going for goals, though, that's the Celtic way and, apart from the fact that the support will demand that anyway, we want to do this in style against a very good Danish side who will also be looking for a positive result.

Thanks to an injury picked up in that 1-1 draw over in Copenhagen, I missed out on playing in the 3-1 win over Kilmarnock on Sunday, but I'm doing everything I can to be back in the side tonight and hopefully that will be the case.

The lads did very well in my absence, though, none more so than Callum McGregor, who wore the armband, and you the supporters played a massive part in turning the game around and increasing our lead

at the top of the table to 12 points.

Points are off the table, though, in our next two games – tonight in the UEFA Europa League against FC Copenhagen and on Sunday against St Johnstone in the Scottish Cup – as getting through to the next round in each competition is the goal at the end of the day.

With your help in creating that fantastic Celtic Park European night atmosphere and cauldron of noise, we can take care of the first part of that cup double as we all want to be in that UEFA Europa League last 16 draw tomorrow.



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IN THIS WEEK'S JAM-PACKED TABLE-TOPPING *CELTIC VIEW*



IN the week that his side moved 12 points ahead at the top of the table, we speak to Neil Lennon ahead of yet another important week for the club.

In this week's issue of the club's official weekly magazine, the manager looks back at the previous week's action as well as forward to the visit of FC Copenhagen in the UEFA Europa League last 32 second leg, and the trip to play St Johnstone in the Scottish Cup on Sunday.

Also in this week's *View*:

- This week also marks a full year since Neil Lennon returned as manager, and the latest *Celtic View* looks at his impressive list of achievements in such a short space of time.

- Fraser Forster came to Celtic's rescue with his penalty save in Denmark last week, and we look at his previous spot-kick saves - plus the English keeper sits down with

the magazine for an exclusive interview.

- Leigh Griffiths was back on the goal hunt on Sunday and he speaks to the *View*.

- We find out about the plans to erect a statue of Lisbon Lion, Tommy Gemmill in his hometown of Craignuek.

- In the week that the Celtic Women's team began their first-ever professional league season with a win over long-term champions, Glasgow City, we speak to new Spanish signing, Anita Marcos.

- Young Irish goalkeeper, Liam Hughes talks about mixing it with the first-team keepers over recent weeks.

- Find out how you could win a Celtic shirt signed by Mohamed Elyounoussi.

- And we have a superb centre-spread pull-out penalty-save poster of Fraser Forster.



All this and much more, only in this week's *Celtic View*. It's on sale now.